

# Zampogna Likes Heavy Metal, Swimming, Cooking, Students

By James Doolittle

What do aerobics, heavy metal concerts, and swimming have in common? They are all activities which Student Activities Coordinator Tammy Zampogna enjoys during her spare time. "I'm also becoming a better cook," she adds.

Since June of 1990, Zampogna has worked at PSU Delco as the Coordinator of Student Activities. "I am the overseer of all the clubs and organizations on our campus. I try to make them work together as a team.

"I also take care of all the programming we do on campus, such as the Delco Funnies Series, which consists of comedians, hypnotists, and magicians, all of which are purely for entertainment.

"I also arrange all of the Cultural Diversity programming with Beverly Lindsey, which includes Cultural Awareness Week, Hispanic Heritage Week, and Black History Month. The purpose of these programs is to widen everyone's cultural awareness.

"We are now about to begin our Leadership Series for all students, but especially for those in leadership positions in the various clubs and organizations."

Zampogna was raised in Northwestern Pennsylvania. During her high school years, she participated in the student government and upon graduation attend Gannon University. Zampogna graduated from Gannon with a degree in Mental Health Counseling and then went to Indiana University of Pennsylvania for a graduate degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education.

One thing that Zampogna likes about her job is the interaction she has with the students at Delco. "I don't think that at this point in my

career I would want to be in a higher, executive position because I wouldn't be working directly with the students as I do now. What I do now is what I enjoy the most. In the future, I may want an administrative position, but I am very happy where I am now.

"If I wasn't working here, I would undoubtedly be in a counseling position of one form or another. In a year or so I want to begin working on my doctorate in counseling."

If there is one thing that Zampogna would like to see from the students of PSU Delco it is more participation in the many activities offered at the campus, although she agrees that "the educational process should be the number one priority of all enrolled students."

## Faculty Interview

# Mitnick Reflects On Life, Teaching at Delco

By Chuck Spector

Born in the ("very") late 40's at Jefferson Hospital in Philadelphia, Andrea Margaretta Donath Mitnick grew up in Wayne, Pennsylvania, attending Conestoga High School. While in college she was able to backpack through Europe. She got married shortly after she finished graduate school, and moved up to Massachusetts where her new husband was going to Harvard Graduate School.

Then from there, they got a chance to live in Switzerland for three and a half years, which was a terrific experience for her. While living in Lausanne, Switzerland, she taught English as a second language. Her first child, Alexander, was born while she was still in Lausanne. She traveled extensively in Israel, Istanbul, Turkey, and much of Europe.

After that, she moved to the Boston area for eleven years, and now she returns back here to the Greater Philadelphia Area where, for the past eight years, she has been teaching at Penn State Delco.

She received her Associates degree in Radio, Television, and Theater from Centenary College for Women in New Jersey. The reason she got an Associate Degree is the same reason she feels that some students are considering a two-year degree now. She was not interested in sitting in college for four years; the thought of it appalled her.

However, her parents told her that she had to go. So she said, "Well I'll go, but I'm only going to go for two years, okay folks? So I was lucky, I got to go to a kind of exclusive, expensive two year college. I did real well because I was a big fish in a small pond."



Andrea Mitnick, Speech Communication instructor, showing us her million dollar smile.

Photo by: DIANA MICERI

She received a Baccalaureate degree in English Literature from Temple University, and in 1972 a Masters degree in Rhetoric and Public Address. Presently she is "All But Dissertation" for a Doctorate in Speech Communication.

Andrea Mitnick taught for about eight years at Northeastern University, Boston, an interesting place which she liked a lot. She felt that they have a real fine cooperative educational program.

She has also taught at Salem State College in Massachusetts, Villanova

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University School of Nursing, and Burlington County Community College in New Jersey.

Ms. Mitnick has also taught at a number of other community colleges. I appreciate the notion of community colleges a lot. "I enjoy non-traditional students, such as people whom come back to school after years of doing other things with their lives," she adds.

She presently teaches from time to time at Episcopal School of Nursing. The course is for student nurses being taught through Penn State's Continuing Education program. The course is geared to communicating in a medical setting. She also teaches interviewing skills at Temple University during the summer.

Mainly she teaches public speaking, but she has also taught interpersonal communication. She has the ability to teach a lot of undergraduate level courses. "I would like to teach a course on reading television, which means learning to observe t.v. real closely

and real critically. I like television. I'm not saying anything negative except that I think people ought to learn how to watch it more critically," said Ms. Mitnick.

When asked what she was going to do in the future once she received her Ph. D., she answered, "There are a lot of possibilities, but I have no intentions at this moment at all of leaving this job. Of course, it's also not entirely up to me; it's a matter of what this University wants and who they want.

"The fact is, I enjoy teaching Freshmen and Sophomores. Young people have an extremely privileged place in our society, as university students, and I take it as part of my job to help them recognize the privilege and respect the opportunity to broaden their knowledge base, meet diverse types of people, and have all sorts of doors of opportunity open to them."

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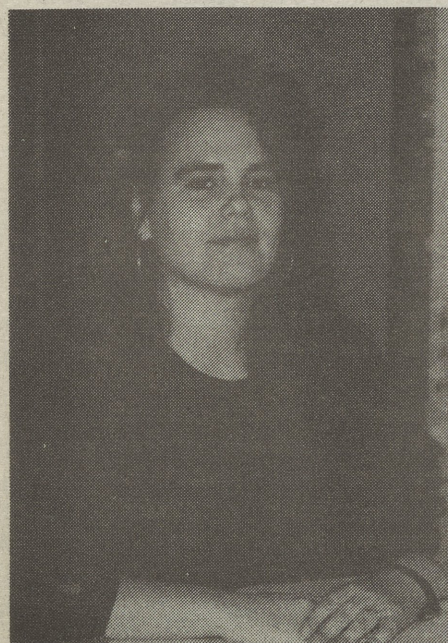
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Tammy Zampogna — the woman behind Student Activities at Delco.

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